

May 2, 2005

Dillon Tribune

RE: Legal Notice on Reclamation Bond Increase for Paul Kurth Mining

Dear Editor:

Please run the following Legal Notice in your next issue:

LEGAL NOTICE

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) have been conducting a five-year comprehensive bond review of Paul Kurth Mining's (PKM) bonding requirements for Operating Permit No. 00154 pursuant to Section 82-4-338(3), MCA. Paul Kurth Mining is a placer gold mine near Bannock on Grasshopper Creek 20 miles southwest of Dillon, MT. PKM has mined in the area since 1994. The mine is on BLM land in Section 15 in Township 8 South and Range 11 West in Flathead County. The agencies issued the draft preliminary bond determination. PKM commented on the draft preliminary bond determination within 30 days of receipt of the letter. PKM also met with DEQ regarding the preliminary bond determination.

Current disturbance at the mine is 16.44 acres within an 18.5-acre permit area. DEQ currently holds a reclamation bond of \$35,000 for reclamation of the 16.44 acres of permitted disturbance. The agencies have determined as part of the bond review process that an increase in the bond is required to guarantee reclamation of the permitted disturbance at the site. The agencies have calculated a proposed bond determination of \$99,335 which would cover the reclamation needed.

A copy of the bond calculations that form the basis for the proposed bond determination can be obtained by contacting the Montana Department of Environmental Quality, Environmental Management Bureau, P. O. Box 200901, 1520 E. Sixth Ave., Helena, MT 59620-0901, or by calling Patrick Plantenberg at (406) 444-4960 or e-mail at pplantenberg@mt.gov. Public comments should be submitted to the preceding address within 30 days of this publication. A final bond determination will be issued within 30 days of the close of the public comment period.

Please attach an affidavit of publication, with an original tear sheet for the run date, to your invoice and send them to:

Department of Environmental Quality
Environmental Management Bureau
1520 East 6th Avenue
PO Box 200901
Helena MT 59620-0901

Please charge to DEQ account number: RC # 5315, DOC # EMB 5035159.
Sincerely,

Patrick Plantenberg
Operating Permit Section Supervisor
Environmental Management Bureau

cc: Jackie Windon, DEQ
Charles Freshman, DEQ

PS/sf
File: 00154.37 and .10
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